

Nixon tips Senator as new A-G

WASHINGTON (UPI). — President Richard M. Nixon yesterday named Sen. William French Smith as his new Attorney General.

Smith, 57, a Republican from Maryland, was named to the post after a long search. He is a frequent critic of the President, but has been a loyal supporter of the administration since October 20, 1972.

Smith said he had a long conversation with Mr. Nixon and was confident that he would be able to handle the job. He is a former member of the House of Representatives and has served as a judge.

Smith's appointment is seen as a move to strengthen the administration's legal position. He is expected to take office in January 1974.

Smith is a well-known figure in Washington, having served in various capacities for the government. He is known for his conservative views and his loyalty to the President.

Smith's appointment is a significant move for the administration. It shows the President's confidence in Smith's abilities and his commitment to the rule of law.

Smith is expected to be a strong advocate for the administration's policies. He will be responsible for overseeing the Department of Justice and representing the government in court.

Smith's appointment is a testament to his long and distinguished career in public service. He is a man of integrity and a strong sense of duty.

Sadat calls for Israeli pullback

CAIRO (Reuters). — President Anwar Sadat yesterday warned that if Israel fails to withdraw to the October 22 cease-fire lines, on the western bank of the Suez Canal, he will allow his military forces to deal with the situation.

The Egyptian leader told a press conference here that a return to the October 22 cease-fire lines was essential for a start to Middle East peace talks. He also called for the immediate disengagement of Israeli and Egyptian troops on the west bank of the Suez Canal, and said this was another essential pre-condition for the start of negotiations.

The Egyptian President warned that he was under heavy pressure from his military commanders to deal with Israeli forces, which he said had violated the October 22 cease-fire, and grabbed more land along the west bank of the Canal.

He said he had made the position clear in messages to President Nixon and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. "I told Nixon and Brezhnev we will not accept the presence of (Israeli) pockets on the west bank, under any circumstances," he declared.

President Sadat said that U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was coming to Cairo for two days of talks on Tuesday.

"If peace is really wanted, and if there is real intention towards that end, the October 22 cease-fire line must be respected," he said. After a withdrawal to the October 22 line, he was prepared to sit down at a peace conference for a settlement on the basis of the 1967 U.N. resolution — which called for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Sadat's warning came as Israel's military operations in the Sinai Peninsula continued. The Egyptian leader said that his country was prepared to accept a ceasefire, but only if Israel withdrew to the October 22 lines.

Sadat's statement was seen as a warning to Israel that Egypt was prepared to take action if its demands were not met. It was also a call for a return to the negotiating table.

Sadat's warning is a significant development in the Middle East peace process. It shows the Egyptian leader's determination to achieve a just and lasting peace in the region.

Pro-Israel quarters concerned over bid at 'even-handedness' Kissinger to visit Egypt and other Arab states next week

By DANIEL GOTTLIEB Jerusalem Post Correspondent WASHINGTON. — Prime Minister Golda Meir arrived here close to midnight last night, amid growing indications of Israeli-American tension over implementation of the terms of the U.N. cease-fire resolution.

Mrs. Meir told newsmen "there are problems that have to be cleared." She added that it was "an oversimplification" to suggest the U.S. has exerted undue pressure on Israel concerning a peace settlement with the Arabs.

The White House finally acknowledged yesterday, after numerous unconfirmed reports, that Secretary of State Henry Kissinger will visit Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Pakistan next week. Joseph Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East, will travel with Kissinger and then fly on to Israel, Lebanon, Kuwait and India.

Dr. Kissinger will proceed to China, as scheduled earlier. The sudden Kissinger trip was greeted in congressional quarters with a mixture of surprise and skepticism.

The trip was seen by some as an attempt by the administration to convince the Arabs that the U.S. was ready to play the even-handed broker again in bringing about a peace settlement.

Dr. Kissinger, who told congressmen yesterday he believed progress was being made on establishing a cease-fire line between Israel and Egypt and also towards a peace agreement, arranged to fly on Monday to Rabat, Morocco, to start his Middle East swing.

The State Department said no other arrival or departure dates were being announced "for obvious reasons" — presumably related to security, although the White House announced that Dr. Kissinger would be in Cairo on November 7 for talks with President Anwar Sadat.

Kissinger's special mission was disclosed several hours before scheduled talks yesterday between the President and Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir.

The White House said Kissinger's two days of talks with Fakhry, including a four-hour session Tuesday, dealt with "the implications of the cease-fire and the longer term questions about a durable settlement in the Middle East."

Nixon-Meir talks to focus on 3rd Army APPREHENSION AT RECENT U.S. POLITICAL MOVES

By DAVID LANDAU, Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Correspondent The complex question of the encircled Egyptian Third Army Corps still lies at the centre of the dialogue between Israel and the U.S. — and is the main reason for Premier Meir's visit to Washington.

Informed sources said yesterday Mrs. Meir was going, too, to allay apprehensions in connection with recent American diplomatic moves.

The United States — under Egyptian and Soviet pressure — remains adamant that the Third Army must not be forced to surrender. American determination last week that this must not happen — and President Nixon's consequent avoidance of a confrontation with the Soviet Union on this issue — resulted in Israel agreeing to allow a food and medicine convoy to reach the Army.

Israel specified that this was a one-way measure, involving 125 trucks. But now, pressure from Washington on Israel is mounting again — sparked by continued Egyptian and Soviet pressure — that Israel allow continuous food supplies to the Army.

American spokesmen, furthermore, are vague about their government's stand on the question of Israeli withdrawal to the original cease-fire lines of October 22. The Egyptians continue to demand this, while Israel contends that such lines never existed in fact, since the cease-fire was violated.

Mrs. Meir will also argue that the encirclement of the Third Army was effectively completed before the original cease-fire was due to take effect on Monday night at 6.50. The Israel Defence Forces controlled all the roads between the Egyptian hinterland and the beleaguered force on the Canal's east bank. In subsequent fighting, the Israeli army only improved its position.

Mrs. Meir will also stress to the President that the cease-fire continues to be violated: by the blockade of the Straits of Bab el-Mandeb, and by the Egyptian and Syrian behaviour in relation to prisoners of war.

If and when these two major outstanding questions are resolved, Israel would be prepared to discuss, with Egypt, the cease-fire as a whole — possibly with a view to each side withdrawing to more rational ground positions. (Deputy Premier Yigal Alon suggested in an interview on Saturday that as a first stage both sides might withdraw to their pre-1967 lines, and a belt of U.N. forces introduced between them, along the Canal banks.)

Egypt so far has dismissed this idea. The arguments she will use to back up her position will be based on these: the Arab states deserve "no prize for their aggression," and U.S. policy should be aimed at denying them any prize; the world is watching developments in the Middle East as a touchstone of the efficacy and trustworthiness of the U.S. (Continued on page 2, col. 2)



Prime Minister Golda Meir at Lod Airport yesterday before her departure for Washington. Behind her (half-hidden) is U.S. Ambassador Kenneth Keating. (Rahmani)

Egyptian President ignores Jordan, praises the U.S.

By ANAN SAFADI, Jerusalem Post Arab Affairs Reporter A conspicuous feature of Egyptian President Sadat's press conference yesterday was his failure to mention the territorial claims of Jordan when he spoke of those of Egypt and Syria. Instead Sadat referred to "the Palestinians' right to self-determination."

Another highlight was his praise of the "constructive role" played by Washington in efforts to solve the Middle East conflict. Sadat's emphasis on an Israeli withdrawal to the October 22 cease-fire line is intended to bolster his prestige both inside Egypt and within the Arab world in anticipation of a peace conference. He is insisting on this step in the hope of containing the Israeli bulge on the western bank of the Suez Canal within a limited area west of the Bitter Lakes, and to break the Israeli blockade of the port city of Suez and consequently of the Egyptian Third Army.

Achieving this would mean that Sadat would be casting in to the full on the only two cards he holds: the Israeli prisoners of war which he wants to exchange for an open supply route to the Third Army, and the blockade of the Bab el-Mandeb access to the Red Sea which he wants to negotiate against Israel's claims to Sharm el-Sheikh.

Sadat's reference to the Palestinians came as Beirut press reports yesterday indicated that the Palestinian terrorist movement would like to participate in Arab peace efforts.

One Beirut report implied the terrorists were debating the possibility of promoting a Palestinian autonomy, based on the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, "an al-Hanna area," indicating they might be eyeing a stretch of Jordanian territory to link them with Syria rather than Amman, if the latter resisted an independent Palestinian entity.

Sadat's statement is a clear message to Israel that Egypt is not interested in a settlement that ignores the rights of the Palestinians. It is a call for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Syria lists conditions on P-O-Ws Red Cross given 39 more names by Egypt

GENEVA (UPI). — The International Red Cross said yesterday its delegates in Egypt now have the names of 39 further captured Israeli soldiers, all of them wounded and in a hospital near Cairo. It transmitted the names to Israel.

Red Cross spokesmen said this brings to 85 the numbers of identified Israeli prisoners of war in Egypt. Previously the Red Cross had the names of 46 Israelis.

Israel estimates that there are some 300 of its troops held by Egypt and some 120 by Syria.

Meanwhile, sources in Cairo reported yesterday that Egypt has filed a protest with the Red Cross against the alleged capture of 800 civilians by the Israeli task force operating west of the Suez Canal.

The Syrian authorities said yesterday a list of Israeli prisoners of war in Syria would be submitted to the Red Cross under certain conditions. Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Abdel Ghanem Safar said Syria would only comply with the Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War if Israel also complied, by returning the bodies of Syrians killed during the fighting and allowing Syrians who fled their villages during the fighting to return.

Commenting on the Syrian statement the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem said that Israel was adhering fully to the Geneva Convention and submitting lists of all its P-O-Ws continuously and without delay to the Red Cross.

Home to Arabs: end blockade at Red Sea

LONDON (Reuters). — British Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home will visit Moscow from December 2 to 5 to discuss the Middle East situation and other major world developments with Soviet leaders.

Opening a foreign affairs debate to the House of Commons yesterday, Sir Douglas-Home called on the Arab side to lift their blockade of the Bab el-Mandeb Straits in the Red Sea, and to agree to an exchange of war prisoners. He said Israel should ease the plight of Egypt's Third Army.

The American Government, which has played an important role in bringing about the cease-fire, can help to obtain the early release of Israeli P-O-Ws. These men must not be used as pawns in a struggle between the Great Powers. The Third Geneva Convention relation to prisoners of war makes humane treatment and the prompt exchange of wounded prisoners mandatory. Basic human rights must not be denied them by politics or delaying tactics.

Please sign the petition and deliver it to any of the following regional offices of AALI: Tel Aviv 76a Rehov Ben Yehuda, Tel. 03-235644; Jerusalem 9 Rehov Alkalai, Tel. 02-36932; Haifa 124 Sderot Hanassi, Tel. 04-87140; Netanya 9 Rehov Shmuel Hanatziv, Tel. 053-22913; Beerseba Beit Haolah, 2 Rehov Habistadrut.

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TO ALL AMERICANS IN ISRAEL Residents, Tourists, Students, Foreign Employees ISRAELI SOLDIERS, HELD AS PRISONERS IN EGYPT AND SYRIA, MUST BE FREED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

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Honorable Richard M. Nixon President United States of America We the undersigned, citizens of the United States of America, call upon the Government of the United States, in keeping with the humanitarian principles upon which America was founded, to bring all possible influence to bear on the governments of Syria and Egypt, to comply with the terms of the Geneva Convention on the treatment of Prisoners of War, and implement an immediate and full exchange of Prisoners of War.



Feelings run high at rally of P-o-Ws' families

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Hundreds of anxious relatives of Israeli prisoners held in Egypt and Syria tried to storm the American Embassy and Red Cross offices here yesterday. They were held back by prompt police intervention.

Feelings were running very high, and the demonstrators — many of them women — worked themselves into a frenzy, shouting threats against the Arab leaders and also, in some cases, against the Government.

Shulamit Aloni, M.K., who addressed the crowd outside the Red Cross offices in Rehov Ben Yehuda, tried to explain that the demonstration was not meant to be a criticism of the International Red Cross. It was, she said, "an expression of the anxiety of the prisoners' relatives." Red Cross officials promised to do their best.

After leaving the Red Cross offices, in the El Al building, the demonstrators went to the American Embassy in Rehov Hayarkon. Here a small delegation was received by Embassy Counselor Jack Butten, who also promised to do all he could to secure the release of the prisoners. The crowd then proceeded up Rehov Hayarkon to the French and British embassies before dispersing in Rehov Dizengoff.



Some of the people with family believed to be in Arab prisoner of war camps shown at the demonstration outside the American Embassy in Tel Aviv yesterday.

Volunteering, and the long pull

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Only volunteers who can do a steady job are of help. The others are more of a nuisance, according to Esther Herlitz, who has returned temporarily to run the volunteers' centre.

She says too many good-hearted women who insist on working in a hospital have become "neurotic." Hospitals are pretty well cared for by their regular staff.

But what about the married nurse who had used to work half-a-day and who now is required to do a full shift? A volunteer would be much more at home in the nurse's flat than in the hospital, and do a more useful job, Miss Herlitz says. A good level-headed housewife can save the family of an enlisted man from disintegration, she believes. With the first shock, local groceries stopped selling on credit. A mother of six stopped getting her daily allocation from her husband to run the household. She may not even know where her husband kept the money. The shock of a woman learning that her man was killed in action may lead her into a state of torpor which could last weeks.

"There is help available for such cases, but the woman may not know where to seek it," Miss Herlitz said. "Moreover, she would be unable to see the psychologist. Some-one has to take her there by car."

When the war began, there was a great deal of spontaneous initiative. A retired businessman started a voluntary transport service; people could phone a number of telephones and ask for somebody to take them to a hospital. Two teenage girls received messages by phone and tried to arrange baby-sitters. Members of an immigrant association instituted a shuttle service for soldiers between Rosh Pina and Tel Aviv.

But all those outbursts of good-will must, in the nature of things, slowly dwindle into thin air, she said. Volunteering on the home front must be channelled through existing organizations, which had done much good work before the war — Wiso, the Working Mothers and their like.

The Prime Minister's Volunteer Centre, which was established a year ago, serves only as a channeling service, she said. "We receive requests and pass them on to the organization which seems the most promising in the case."

The debt the centre owes to a British example is readily acknowledged by Miss Herlitz. "We have been inspired by the Citizen's Advisory Bureau," established after the London "blitz."

"And there was a side benefit to the strictly humanitarian work of the volunteers in England," Miss Herlitz said. Members of the upper middle-class suddenly came into contact with the English workers and their troubles. "The Beveridge Plan for a welfare state was the logical outcome. I assure you that here, too, the good-hearted persons who are ready to share their time and experience with others will come to realize that a gulf exists between their way of living and thinking and their fellow citizens. They will never be the same again," she believes.

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When the war broke out, a dozen grain ships were waiting in line at the port, but the record effort cleared up the backlog. More ships are continuing to arrive, bringing additional grain from the U.S.

The silo is now filling up to its 85,000-ton capacity because of the shortage of trucks, which has slowed delivery to the stock. It will be filled for a few days at the end of the week, pending the removal of more grain.

Colleges hope to reopen in December

Jerusalem Post Reporter
BETHSHEVA. — The President of the University of the Negev, Prof. Moshe Prywes, said yesterday he "hoped" that all the country's universities would be able to start the academic year in December. He was speaking at an emergency meeting of the university's academic staff.

The school year was supposed to begin last week but was postponed because of the war.

The staff decided to set up teaching groups of faculty members to tutor wounded soldier-students in hospitals. The groups will also give lectures on various subjects to wounded soldiers.

The Ministry announced yesterday that it invites all persons interested in training as truck drivers to register at the nearest labour exchange. An appeal was also made to private motorists. In view of the shortage of public transport, would they please give lifts whenever possible, especially in places where the bus schedule is not working properly.

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Orders are being placed overseas for 2,500 new road carriers (at a cost of 11,200m.), plus another 1,000 used trucks. Two former Directors-General of the Ministry, Shaul Bar-Zeev (now chairman of the Shipping Bank) and Ramon Harel (of the Discount Bank) are currently abroad to handle these acquisitions.

Due to arrive in the next eight days are 30 juggernaut trucks and trailers, capable of carrying 3,000

Dayan: LIES FOR THE THIRD ARMY. — At bottom left, Egyptian soldiers unload relief supplies from the trucks which came through the Israeli lines on Sunday. Armed Israeli soldiers stand guard. Operation is going on 50 metres from the water's edge, inside the city of Suez. Egyptian amphibious personnel carriers ferry the supplies over to the Third Army on the bank of the Canal.



Minority subscribers to war

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Raya to see Pope 'on advancing peace'

The head of the Greek Catholic Church in Israel, Archbishop Joseph Raya, announced yesterday he would meet with Pope Paul in Rome next week to discuss the "advancement of peace in the Middle East." The Archbishop also said he had called an appeal to the Pope to intervene in the matter of Israeli P-o-Ws.

Rain in north, spreading south

Jerusalem Post Staff
The scattered showers that started to fall in the northern parts of the country yesterday are expected to continue and spread southwards during the course of today.

Most parts of the north received intermittent rain yesterday. In some places, it was fairly heavy and accompanied by thunder and lightning. The rain caught many summer-camp residents of Haifa and Safed by surprise, sweeping the streets clean, watering the lawns and, in Haifa, interrupting work in the port for a short time in the afternoon.

Cotton farmers hurry to beat rainy season

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The cotton harvest has been disrupted by the war, and farmers are now fighting against time to get it in before the rains set in.

The most pressing problem at the moment is the lack of transportation. Although many fields of cotton remain to be picked, even that part of the crop already harvested has had to be stored under plastic covers in the fields. Farmers hope that the rains will not spoil it, but just in case, they have insured their fields against fire and rain.

Germans offer medical aid to combatants

Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA. — The German Government has offered the Middle East combatants medical equipment and drugs. The offer came over the weekend and is currently being considered by the Ministry of Health's war coordination unit.

A German embassy spokesman confirmed the offer in reaction to a news report that manufacturers of medical products in Germany (and elsewhere in Europe) had refused to supply them when they learned that their destination was Israel. The spokesman said that the same humanitarian gesture was also offered to Egypt, which is understood to have made use of it.

Difficulties in obtaining medical supplies for war needs were encountered in some Common Market countries. The Rambam Society had reported on Tuesday. A spokesman of the Society said yesterday that at the same time, German manufacturers went to great efforts to hasten the delivery of the equipment to airports.

Tourist woman dies in hotel fire
TEL AVIV. — A 34-year-old tourist from the U.S. was burned to death yesterday when her mattress caught fire at the Dan Hotel here.

A chambermaid passing by the woman's room yesterday morning at about nine noticed smoke coming through the cracks around the door. The woman, whose name was not given, was rushed to hospital but died on the way. It is believed she fell asleep while smoking in bed. Her body was sent for a post mortem.

Hospital admissions
TEL AVIV. — The emergency headquarters announces that as of this morning admissions to the hospitals with greater Tel Aviv will be as follows: Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Hadassah Balfour; Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, Donolo in Jaffa; Fridays, Ichilov.

One mother's search for a missing son

Abba Dean tells the story of her son's anguish search for a missing son killed on Yom Kippur

search for news on the missing soldier, whom we all "R", started at mid-morning at Tel Aviv office of a friend, and late the same evening at Megiddo Rest House in Haifa.

"R" mother in a dead faint she recovered she thanked the soldiers who had told her that son were alive, it would be a miracle. It was better to know, she said, than to fear the unknown.

had not heard from her son she had broken out. During the war she had gone several times to Town Major's office, where she had met with both kindness and sympathy, and the promise that she would be instituted for her. She had spent a morning at the Soldiers' Welfare Committee office examining the blurred and faded pictures of prisoners of war which only left faint focus by the end of the evening. Each of soldiers was not only kind, but elated, and indicated whom she also ask for information. Perhaps they had been warned against it to outsiders. But brave as might be in battle, they could see the pleading and strained face of the mother of a comrade-in-arms. Perhaps they all visualized own mother when they saw each reacted as he would have other soldiers to react if his mother had come on a similar mission. Even soldiers who did not "R" by name studied the picture and showed them.

Tel Aviv friend had earlier informed a friend search for news on his own son and explained to go about it. He believed "R" have been in a specific tank battalion.

hospitalized at Rambam Hospital was a wounded soldier who had been in the same tank battalion. He might even have been in the same company, perhaps in the same platoon, perhaps even in the same tank. Even if not, he would have some information. If he did not know "R" personally, he would know others who knew "R". We never found this soldier. Rambam Hospital. He had not been sufficiently to be sent to other place. Where? Perhaps he didn't know, but the charming girl in charge showed helpful a person can be. She had eight more names from the tank battalion, all wounded, in Rambam Hospital, plus

some who had been transferred to Rothschild Hospital. (Rambam received the more serious wounded; Rothschild, the less serious).

FIRST LEAD
The first name on the Rambam list produced a winner. He knew of "R", he knew of the case, but not directly. He suggested talking to two other soldiers hospitalized at Rambam. But one of them could not be seen: his condition was too serious. The other, who was the driver of the tank in which "R" was a radio operator, could not be found. A telephone call to Rothschild confirmed that the tank-driver had been discharged there but had been discharged a day or two before. He had been sent to the Megiddo Rest Home (run by Kipat Holim in Haifa).

Again, the office was helpful, although the two soldiers on duty warned against continuing the search. "Go home and wait for official news from the Army." But under pressure, they relented. The names of four wounded soldiers from the same battalion were found.

By now, we knew which company "R" had been in, as well as which platoon. Only one of the wounded soldiers had been in that company. He was in the eye department. Upon arriving there, we were informed that he was "upstairs in the surgery ward seeing a show."

In the ward, there was only one soldier with a bandage over his eye. But he proved to be the wrong one. The man we were looking for had just gone back to the eye ward to meet his girl friend who had come to visit him.

We found both him and the girl and he advised us to go to the Megiddo Rest Home. We telephoned there. Yes, the tank-driver was on their list of wounded soldiers who were recuperating.

But at Megiddo, the tank driver could not be found. He had indeed arrived, had been assigned a room, but nobody knew the room number. He was paged every few minutes but did not appear. Finally, his room number was found. We left a message on the door and continued to wait.

Conversations with other soldiers produced no information about "R" but they did know about the son of the friend who had helped us start our own search. We waited.

Finally, a soldier, wearing a skull-cap came up. "I understand you want information on 'R'. I was there when his tank hit one of our own mines and went up in flames. My tank was right next to his. Only three men got out of that tank alive: your son didn't get out. The mother fainting, but when she recovered refused to leave until the story was confirmed by the tank-driver himself. Finally, he also appeared, also wearing a skull-cap. A huge fellow who had once lived at Kfar Habad near Tel Aviv, he called me outside. He told me the story, but did not want to talk to the mother. Finally, under persuasion, he told her the entire story.

STRUCK A MINE
When the war broke out at two o'clock on Yom Kippur, they had manned their tanks and started fighting the advancing Syrian tanks.

PAYING FOR THE WAR

DURING almost three weeks of fighting, Israel paid a terrible price in life and limb to repulse the Arab onslaught. But it also paid a heavy economic price. The massive call-up of workers and vehicles and the disruption of transport, tourism and foreign trade have considerably reduced production and real national income, a situation that continues under the cease-fire.

The drop was estimated at over 40 per cent during the first, critical days of the war. Since then the situation has improved with the release of some reservists and with the forging of emergency solutions to some problems. But this is partly offset by new difficulties caused by running down of stocks which cannot be replaced owing to the shortage of trucks or to other war-caused hitches. As a result, our GNP is still running about one-third below normal. In the best conceivable circumstances it cannot fully recover for a long time to come.

Moreover, a larger share of the reduced output is being diverted to defence. Apart from man-days used for military services, and trucks engaged in military transport, production for the army has increased, and substantial new orders have been placed with local industry.

For all the importance of the American armament supply, a substantial part of our defence needs is being met by reduced by ourselves, and in order to expand it, resources must be set aside. Additional resources are necessary for repair of war damage, and for rehabilitation

of the people hurt by the war. Resources available for ordinary uses will inevitably be reduced.

It is against this background that we have to consider the rising tide of purchasing power. Production is lagging but the incomes of most people have not substantially declined. Reduced revenues of some firms and industries — in particular building and affiliated sectors — have been more than balanced by bigger government spending, somewhat easier bank credits, and payment of full wages to workers who have become redundant for the time being. Paradoxically, a subdued national mood coincides with a high level of national consumption which will be further increased if building activity starts recovering.

It goes without saying that care must be taken to secure adequate employment. Fortunately we are also in a position to afford increased imports to cover temporary shortages. This does not mean the economy can be allowed to operate as if business were proceeding as usual. We cannot do it because we have been living in artificial conditions based on vast amounts of public subsidies; now the State is hard put to cover swollen defence requirements. Even the War Loan and the cuts in the development projects cover only part of the increase in the defence budget.

For the time being the remainder must be financed by printing money. If galloping inflation is to be avoided, a realistic, belt-tightening programme must be worked out and applied speedily.

ISRAEL PRESS

U.S. pressure on Israel

Ha'aretz (non-party) emphasizes the necessity and importance of the forthcoming talks between Prime Minister Meir and President Nixon and Secretary of State Kissinger. Israel, perplexed about the timing of the cease-fire and the supplying of the Third Army, is worried about "possible U.S. pressure for Israel to return to a cease-fire line determined retroactively in order to release the surrounded Egyptian troops." The paper says that although Israel has received official assurances of U.S. support in the event of a renewal of hostilities, the possibility of negotiations demands more exhaustive clarification of U.S. positions concerning disputed issues between Israel and the Arabs. Mrs. Meir will certainly not be a passive auditor in these talks. It is essential that the U.S. hear at first hand what price Israel's Government is prepared to pay for peace and how much leeway it is allowing itself in negotiations.

Davar (Histadrut) places Mrs. Meir's visit to Washington in the context of U.S. talks with Egyptian Acting Foreign Minister Fahmy and Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin. These talks have been termed evidence of American efforts to move from cease-fire towards peace negotiations. However, recent American pressure on Israel to make a purely military concession as regards the Egyptian Third Army has been damaging. Mrs. Meir's task will be to make clear to the U.S. President and Secretary of State just where Israel draws the line when it comes to concessions, the paper concludes.

Omer (Histadrut) expresses the hope that Mrs. Meir will succeed in persuading President Nixon and Secretary of State Kissinger not to make demands that Israel will be unable to comply with. The most important issue that of the exchange of P.O.W.s as a condition for all subsequent stages of a settlement.

Al Hanihshar (Mapam) warns the danger of heavy pressure from the U.S. for an imposed solution. The third clause of the Security Council resolution of October 22 refers only to talks between the sides involved and should be interpreted as meaning nothing beyond direct negotiations, the paper emphasizes. It welcomes the Egyptians' promise to present a list of P.O.W.s in their hands and to exchange wounded prisoners, "since this marks some progress and considerably relaxes the tension and may contribute towards talks." However, the Egyptians' true intentions are not clear, and the paper deplores their later statement that they would make an exchange of wounded conditional on the I.D.F.'s return to the lines of October 22. It condemns this attempt at extortion "since exchange of wounded prisoners comes under the Geneva Convention. The wounded should be exchanged immediately after presentation of the lists."

Hamaedia (Agudat Israel) correlates Mrs. Meir's impending visit with Defence Minister Moshe Dayan's statement in the Knesset on Tuesday. Mrs. Dayan's unequivocal admission of the degree of Israel's dependence upon U.S. aid and the implication of the amount of pressure brought to bear on Israel to allow supplies to be brought to the Third Army leaves no doubt as to the necessity for the Prime Minister to speak directly to President Nixon and to Dr. Kissinger.

Hatzofe (National Religious) also expressed concern about the pressure for concessions likely to be applied to Israel by Washington, "which has not given up its policy of détente. Any hasty political move is liable to endanger the military gains which are a matter of life and death for us," the paper writes. "For the war we have gone through, and which is not yet over despite the formal cease-fire, was fought over the very existence of the State of Israel. We must make it clear to the U.S. that the political battle is no less vital to us than the actual fighting and we must stand firm, even if our aims do not fit in with the global policies of the U.S.," the paper concludes.

Shearim (Poalei Agudat Israel), in an appeal for national unity during this period of crisis, calls for the Knesset elections to be postponed for a year and for the establishment of a high council for national security in which all elements of the population would be represented.

Mifal Hapayis Draw Today
at 4 p.m.
מפעל הפיס

Iriyat Tel Aviv-Yafo
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Tel. 244914

NOT 1948, 1956, OR 1967 Proud Syrians don't believe the war ended in their defeat

By GAVIN YOUNG
DAMASCUS (Otna).

PEACE crept back to Syria at about six o'clock in the morning of Thursday October 26 almost surreptitiously, like a cat returning from a night on the tiles. Most Syrians would have perhaps preferred more war.

So, with no cheering, Syria accepted the cease-fire almost casually, in its own sweet time. President Hafez Assad made no rousing speech. There were no dangerous *faux de jete* in the streets. Even the announcement that Syria had followed Egypt, belatedly, into the tangled and sombre thickets of a negotiated settlement with Israel was buried into much talk of meetings and lengthy deliberation of the ruling Ba'ath Party's higher committees.

Syria has been badly knocked about but does not feel itself a defeated country.

All the day before when, in theory

at least, Egypt and Israel had agreed to stop shooting, we heard here the thump of guns towards Mount Hermon, the magnificent escarpment that dominates northern Israel, south Lebanon and south-west Syria. The air-raids alien sent us scurrying to the rooftops for a sight of a dog-fight or air raid. Not a word would Damascus radio tell us about Syria's attitudes to the idea of the cease-fire.

Why did Syria drag its heels until October 25? Probably for two reasons at least. First, Syria has always been, if not the most militarily active against Israel, certainly in the advance-guard of the militant Arab nations. The Ba'ath has been stridently vocal in its championship of the Palestinian cause, and the country has been a haven for Palestinian guerrillas even if they have been kept on a tight leash.

So President Assad had no desire to be thought to be rushing into an end to the war. The last impression

he wanted to give was one of desperate thankfulness that an unpleasant and costly business was over and of jumping into peace with unseemly haste.

This may be partly due to politics. But certainly not solely, or even mainly.

The Syrians are proud of the performance of their armed forces, which may not have regained the lost Golan and may have taken heavy casualties, but have given the Israelis some unexpected knocks in return.

Not desperation

The delay was thus partly to demonstrate that Syria, at least, was not entering into desperation and exhaustion for peace. Secondly, no major decisions of the kind that involves war and peace can be taken by a Ba'ath regime, such as this one without consultation.

The Ba'ath Party is not confined to Syria. It has a branch here which rules Syria. Another branch rules Iraq. But it has branches in other Arab countries, too, so the "regional" (i.e. Syrian) branch high command had to meet to decide on acceptance or non-acceptance; and so did the "national" (or pan-Arab) Ba'ath high command. Given the green light by both, President Assad could then go ahead.

Syria has certainly suffered militarily in this war. But losses were nothing like so debilitating as in 1967.

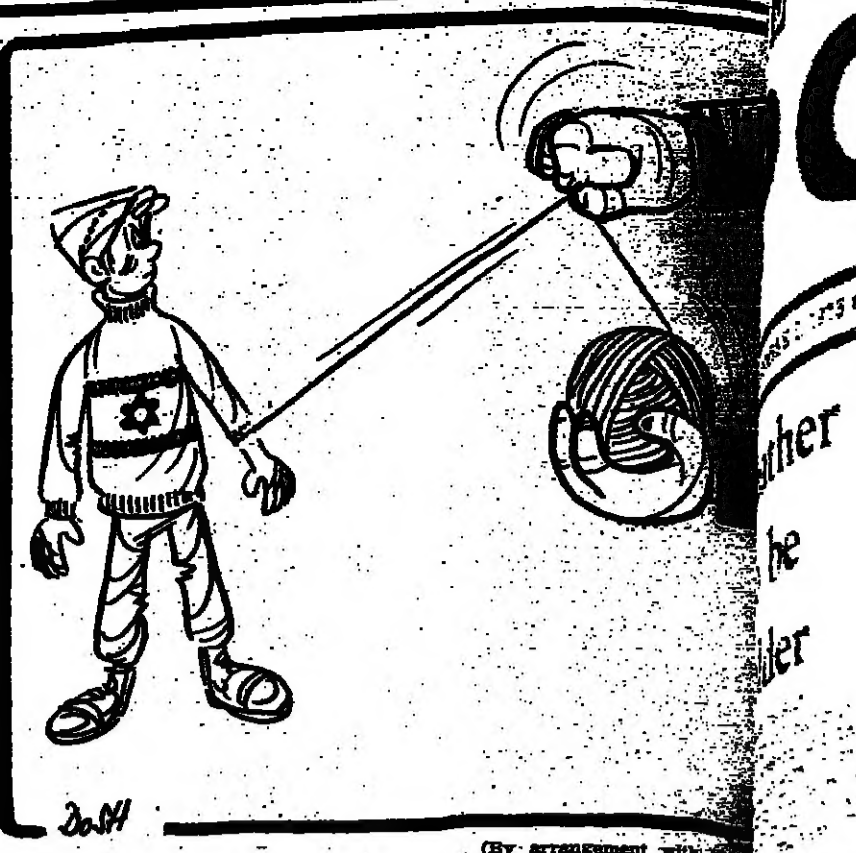
Economically speaking, Syria also suffered heavily. Five hundred and eight million dollars was the figure the Syrian deputy Prime Minister gave out last week as the cost of Israeli attacks on oil installations, roads, railways, power stations and so on. The railway at Hama was totally destroyed, the ports of Latakia and Tartous were damaged.

Still, grave as they are, these ravages can be repaired. The Soviet Union — and other countries — will certainly rush in repair crews and cash. Syria is self-sufficient in food. There has been petrol rationing, but no food rationing.

The problems ahead for the Arab leaders, particularly the respected Hafez Assad, who is now more highly regarded than before the war, are going to be very tricky. But in Damascus, whatever happens, this is not 1948, 1956 or 1967. At least as the all-clear sounds once again, Syrians do not feel crushed.



Syrian troops step on parts of Israeli Skyhawk and Phantom jets that were shot down by anti-aircraft guns near Damascus. (AP)



ARAB HOLD ON OIL MAY BE LOOSE

By ALAN RAKE

DO the Arab oil producing countries really have the Western world over an oil barrel? Some time before the immediate crisis, Europe and America had been building down to the prospect of a long hard winter. In the U.S. President Nixon had called on all Americans to lower their oil-fired central heating systems by four degrees, and petrol stations in different parts of the country had occasionally run short.

In Europe, the country worst hit was Austria. Ironically, it was Austria that had caused a big row immediately before the outbreak of the war, when it announced that it would close down the Schoenau transit camp for Jewish emigrants from Russia. It had caused a major deal to buy oil in bulk from the Iraqi National Oil Company only to find the war had closed all Iraq's Mediterranean terminals. Austria is now appealing to the Western oil companies to fill the gap.

before 1976 and there could be long hard winters before the government is ready to set a precedent rationing at a stroke. British people are already asking about what it was like to get the coal into the bottom of the garden. The vast majority of developed countries, which have no oil of their own, have already been hit by the successive price increases forced by the oil producers. They too will suffer from the rent round of rising costs adding to inflationary costs. Their bill for foreign exchange will also be caught in the web for diminishing oil supplies. Not have the bargaining power, the major nations and many oil companies whose prices are to be brought within Western world in winter.

Could boomerang

The oil weapon is thus force the world into taking a look at its foreign policy to disavow those states that have been Israel's ally. But it could be boomerang. The American who his car on bridges, or the American suffering a winter without heat, instinctively blames the Arab for upsetting the world's balance and might become determined to stand by such a crisis situation.

Will the Arab production work? Already there are many producers such as Iran (the second largest exporter), Indonesia, Venezuela and Canada who will rather than cut production. Nor is it likely that the Arab countries will be able to maintain a united stance in face of growing international pressure.

Whatever happens oil will continue to be a major commodity in the years to come. Even if there is no dramatic supply, the United Nations has dictated a period of acute shortage in the 1980's while the Club of Rome reports that the world's total exhaustion of fuel supplies is the year 2010.

In the years between America is rushing to exploit its vast reserves in Alaska and Britain Europe, the ever increasing demand for oil from the North Sea. At the same time, powerful technological advances in the West will be forced to find solutions to the world's energy needs.

The question is, how fast Arab countries make their felt in the meantime.

Readers' letters

Lesson on P-o-Ws

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I now serve as chairman of the Long Island, New York, POW (prisoners of war) Organization, as well as a National Board Member of the National League of Families of P.O.W.s and MIAs in Southeast Asia. Both of these groups represent the families and concerned leaders in the United States who are trying to ameliorate the tragic plight of the P.O.W.s and MIAs in the Vietnam War. I have had a great deal of exposure in the ongoing discussions with the White House and Dr. Henry Kissinger in the plans to get the P.O.W.s home from Vietnam after the truce and the difficulties in getting the honest facts about the MIAs.

I must make this plea to the Israeli officials dealing with the P.O.W. problem: do not enter into any negotiations until all Israeli prisoners-of-war have been released and all the missing-in-action have been properly accounted for.

I know whereof I speak. The United States had about 1,900 P.O.W.s and MIA men listed at the time of the cease-fire in Vietnam. After much threatening and contention, about 585 men were released. It is nearly ten months after the fact and we still have had no word about the other 1,300. In spite of the fact that North Vietnam and its allies in Laos, Cambodia and others have given many indications that other men are alive and are held in jungle camps, not one word has come out about the 1,300 MIAs.

We have made repeated demands of the President and his Secretary of State; all we get is sanctimonious answers of sympathy and promises that have proved empty. Even though the United States Government has installed a special unit to seek accounting for the 1,300, they have not been able to get the required permission to make the on-the-spot inspections and investigations. The unfortunate and unbalanced truth is that they have been scrupulously kept away from each and every opportunity to find out the truth about the 1,300.

I am certain that Israel now, as the United States then, honestly and carefully fulfill the entire Geneva Code in their treatment of prisoners of war. We have a right to expect that the other side should perform in like fashion, and until we are certain that they do, I implore Israel again to heed my plea:

Do not enter into any negotiations until all Israeli prisoners of war have been released and all the missing-in-action have been properly accounted for.

RABBI RUBIN R. DOBIN
Tel Aviv (Lawrence, N.Y.), Oct. 29.

SOUTH AFRICA'S SUPPORT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — With reference to your editorial of October 26 concerning Africa's break with Israel, it seems to me that it would have been opportune to mention the extremely friendly stand taken towards Israel by at least one country on the African continent, namely the Republic of South Africa.

Whatever reserves and criticism one may, rightly or wrongly, have about the internal policy of that country, it seems to me that it should be frankly admitted and recognized that there is apparently one state in Africa on whose friendship Israel can rely, and that is the Republic of South Africa.

Y. FANNAY
Jerusalem, October 26.

U.S. BASE IN ISRAEL?

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — No doubt our Department of Defence has finally convinced the U.S. State Department that it is imperative for the defence of the U.S. that Israel survives. It is to our best interest that we supply and maintain Israel's military strength.

To insure that there will never be any more aggression, the United States should establish an air base in Israel. After being hoodwinked by Libya, this base could replace that important defensive position we formally had in the Middle East.

JOSEPH N. PINENBERG
Philadelphia, October 16.

TRANSPORT ON THE SABBATH

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I read with interest your report that the Minister of Religious Affairs had authorized public transport on the Sabbath so that people can visit wounded relatives. Let us hope that the Minister's emotion will not evaporate after the battle is over and that public transport to hospitals will become a regular Sabbath feature.

URI RUPPERT
Jerusalem, October 19.

MORE PRAISE FOR RADIO AND TV

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Lenny Edelstein took the words out of my mouth: Even before I read her "Bouquets for the radio" (October 26), I wanted to praise Gali Zabal and the Israel Broadcasting Authority for their reporting of the war. Israel TV deserves special praise for its contribution to keeping children and grown-ups, at home and at the front, busy during these dark days of war with their most interesting and entertaining programmes.

RINK HIRSH
Tel Aviv, October 26.

KNESSET INCIDENT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — A Member of the Knesset was attacked today, his notes were destroyed, he was hustled forcibly away from the rostrum and was refused the right to finish his speech.

This sort of thing will grow overnight into an uncontrollable monster if the three M.C.s responsible are not punished. They ought to be banished from the Knesset for at least three days.

I hate what Willner stands for, but if he can be muzzleed by force, anyone else can — and will be.

ROBERT GREENGARD
Holon, October 23.

Dis-united nations

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — At last, the whole world is beginning to realize for the first time that the Dis-United Nations is nothing but a farce and has degenerated into nothing but a sounding board for Communist propaganda. This latest Middle East war is ample proof of this, and the present Middle East dilemma has sounded the death knell of this noble institution.

Opposite the dis-United Nations, there is a monument with an ancient prophecy inscribed on its walls. It says: "And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their

TRANSPORT ON THE SABBATH

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Sir, — I read with interest your report that the Minister of Religious Affairs had authorized public transport on the Sabbath so that people can visit wounded relatives. Let us hope that the Minister's emotion will not evaporate after the battle is over and that public transport to hospitals will become a regular Sabbath feature.

URI RUPPERT
Jerusalem, October 19.

Dilemma of over-aged men

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I read with interest Doris Landin's article, "Dilemma of over-aged men trying to serve" in your issue of October 19. Two days later, you published a report about gas deliveries in Tel Aviv, to the effect that the city emergency headquarters had announced that when gas companies were not able to make home deliveries, the consumers could collect the gas balloons themselves.

Most women are without their milk. We may be able to hire a taxi to transport the balloon, but how can we carry it to our apartment? Can a woman carry a gas balloon alone, when the gas companies always have two men delivering? I would suggest that this is definitely a job for over-aged men to do in pairs.

SARA MILLER
Bnei Brak, October 21.

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Remember these for blessing, O Zion, with all my might have I loved thee. May thy memory be blessed for ever! Great is thy hope, O Zion. That peace and thy longed for salvation will come. Generation after generation will dwell in thee and generations of saints will be thy splendour. Those who yearn for the day of thy salvation that they may rejoice in the greatness of thy glory. On (thy) abundance of thy glory they are nourished and in thy splendour squares will thy toddlers. The merits of thy prophets will thou remember, and in the deeds of thy pious ones will thou glory.

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